

CITY OF BOSTON
HOSPITAL DEPARTMENT
THE BOSTON CITY HOSPITAL
818 HARRISON AVENUE, BOSTON 18, MASS.

JOHN F. CONLIN, M. D.
DIRECTOR OF HOSPITALS
AND SUPERINTENDENT

KENMORE 6-8600

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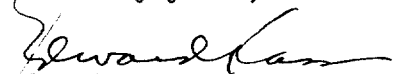
Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Dept. of Genetics
Univ. of Wisconsin
Madison 6, Wisconsin

Dear Doctor Lederberg:

During the past week we have interviewed Michael Frank who is a candidate for admission to Harvard Medical School. As we became better acquainted with him he told us of the conflict between his interests in non-medical scientific work as typified by the kind of work you are doing and his desire to go into more clinical studies. We were all impressed by this man's intellect and excellent achievements to date but would hesitate to take him on if the conflict in his mind were so unresolved that it would lead to some defects later. We should greatly appreciate your estimate of this man and your opinion concerning his suitability for the study of medicine. I am aware via the usual grapevines that you at one time had a considerable interest in medicine and have the temerity to ask that you pass in judgement on this candidate. There were also some questions about whether he had rushed through at such a rate that his intellectual achievements had ~~not~~^{not} stripped his personal maturity and we should welcome your views on this aspect as well. I am sorry that this kind of problem did not arise before your visit to Boston a few years ago since this is the sort of thing that is so much better discussed than written about, but if you can take the time to let me know your reactions to this man, it will be of the greatest value to us.

With many thanks.

Sincerely yours,



Edward H. Kass, M.D., Ph.D.
Thorndike Memorial Laboratory

EHK:k

*See Frank file
general comment
on med sci*